

October 2004

NORTHERN COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT

Nevada Highway Patrol

Major Richard Varner

Overview

The Northern Command was very busy this month with dignitary protection duties. As the Presidential election was winding down we had several visits. Mrs. Laura Bush visited the Northern Command on October 6, and October 14. President Bush visited on October 14. Presidential candidate John Kerry visited on October 22. All visits taxed our Northern Command resources and personnel greatly. This was especially true of the impact to the Commercial Enforcement section. The commercial troopers were used extensively for road closures and route security. The Motors were also extensively used for the motorcades as well as our command personnel. The hours utilized on these details totaled over 376 hours; 263.25 hours of regular duty and 113.5 hours of overtime total. Of this total time 46.25 hours of regular duty and 37.5 hours of overtime hours were completed by the commercial section.

Crashes within the command increased this month. Property damage crashes increased 19%; injury crashes decreased 2% and fatal crashes increased by one occurrence. The overall increase in crashes is 12.8%.

Due in part to the increase in the amount time spent on crashes and special assignments, enforcement efforts were reduced. Speed violation enforcement decreased 33%, hazardous moving enforcement decreased 9% and occupant restraint enforcement decreased 28%. This along with other categories produced an overall decrease of 21.4%. DUI arrests improved slightly showing a gain of 6% prior to crash.

It should be noted that the Northern Command has had a drastic reduction of personnel when comparing this month to the same month last year. The command has 11 less troopers now that it had in October 2003. Overall, total violations dropped 3.6% this month when compared to October 2003 showing again that even with the manpower losses the command is continuing to fulfill their commitment to the public.

The commercial enforcement activities spiked in September which is the end of the Federal Fiscal Year and then declined in October. It appears that the overall commercial enforcement activities continue to decline. This issue has been addressed and it is anticipated that this trend will be reversed.

Construction continues on the major roadways in the Reno, and Carson City, areas. Re-construction of the Spaghetti Bowl continues and is causing major traffic tie ups in the morning commute continuing all day until after the evening commute. The freeway bypass in Carson City continues to be an increased crash area.

The Northern Command will continue to do the best work possible with the limited number of officers available. We will continue to try new programs to best utilize the resources the command has available to it.

Congratulation's to our Employees of the 1st Quarter. Trooper Mike Edgell, Dispatcher Dana Brown, Evidence Custodian Dave Ballard.

Content:

Crash Analysis

Field Enforcement

Staffing Hours

Ratios

Projects

Upcoming Events

NORTHERN COMMAND

CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	October-04		Same Period Previous Year	% Change		Prior Reporting Period	% Change
Total Crashes	451		372	21.2%		400	12.8%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	324		272	19.1%		273	18.7%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	121		92	31.5%		123	-1.6%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	6		8	-25.0%		5	20.0%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	15		16	-6.3%		15	0.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	7		8	-12.5%		6	16.7%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	2		4	-50.0%		0	200.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	0		1	-100.0%		1	-100.0%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	4		1	300.0%		4	0.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	1		1	0.0%		1	0.0%
Total persons killed - seatbelts not applicable	0		1	-100.0%		1	-100.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	25		8	212.5%		9	177.8%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	19		5	280.0%		6	216.7%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	5		3	66.7%		3	66.7%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	1		0	100.0%		0	100.0%

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 1.3%

Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 3.3%

Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 28.6%

Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes 5.5%

- Total crashes increased by 51 or 12.8%
 - The greatest increase was in property damage crashes.
 - Injury crashes decreased by 1.6%.
 - Seven persons were killed in six fatal crashes.
 - Alcohol related crashes remained the same at 15.
- Commercial vehicle involved crashes increased significantly after last month's drop.
 - Property crashes increased by 216.7%.
 - Injury crashes increased by 66.7%
 - There was one commercial vehicle fatal.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Analysis and review of current reporting period, versus same period in previous fiscal year, versus previous reporting period]

	October-04		Same Period Previous Year	% Change		Prior Reporting Period	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes **	15		16	-6.3%		15	0.0%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes **	76		122	-37.7%		72	5.6%
Other Arrests	363		507	-28.4%		348	4.3%
Total persons arrested (DUI included) **	172		204	-15.7%		177	-2.8%
Speed violations	1585		1853	-14.5%		2383	-33.5%
Hazardous moving violations	770		743	3.6%		845	-8.9%
Occupant restraint violations *	266		335	-20.6%		368	-27.7%
Total violations [above violations included]	4683		4858	-3.6%		5955	-21.4%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	11		21	-47.6%		9	22.2%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	29		51	-43.1%		37	-21.6%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6]	374		570	-34.4%		892	-58.1%
Terminal inspections [level 5] CR only	0		0	0.0%		1	-100%
Total safety violations -- citation	141		533	-73.5%		338	-58.3%
Total safety violations -- repair order	878		933	-5.9%		2177	-59.7%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	24		67	-64.2%		153	-84.3%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	20		29	-31.0%		61	-67.2%
Total school buses inspected	163		74	120.3%		30	443.3%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	39		22	77.3%		2	1850.0%
Total trucks weighed	16		254	-93.7%		314	-94.9%
Total overweight citations	14		42	-66.7%		23	-39.1%
Total dyed fuel inspections	267		407	-34.4%		381	-29.9%
Total dyed fuel citations	0		5	-500.0%		6	-600.0%

* Seat belt and child restraint

** Commercial Enforcement Activity Included

- Overall enforcement activity decreased by 21.4% after last month's increase.
 - DUI involved crashes remained the same at 15.
 - There was an increase in DUI arrests prior to crashes of 5.6%.
 - There was a decrease in total persons arrested of 2.8%.
 - There was a decrease in speed, hazardous moving and occupant restraint violations cited.
- Total safety inspections conducted by Commercial Enforcement decreased by 58.1%
 - Total safety violation citations decreased by 58.3%%
 - Total safety violation repair orders decreased by 59.9%
 - Total vehicles placed out of service decreased by 84.4%

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	October 2004	October 2003	% Change	September 2004	% Change
COMMUNICATION CENTER					
Radio Transmissions	87,294	112,803	-22.6%	101,608	-14%
CAD incidents	8,794	12,046	-26.9%	10,907	-19.3%
FRONT OFFICE					
Accident Reports Processed	398	460	-13.4%	391	1.79%
Arrest Reports Processed	99	151	-34.4%	176	-43.75%
Incident / Officer Reports Processed	15	N/A		11	36.36%
COURT / WARRANT					
Warrants Received	352	543	-35.1%	598	-41.14%
Warrants Entered	302	139	117.2%	104	190.38%
Warrants Cleared	1062	469	126.4%	1133	-6.27%
Warrants Validated	Unk *	57		292	unk
Extradition / Transports	18	N/A		29	-37.9%
EVIDENCE					
New Cases Submitted	35	45	-22.5%	25	40.0%
New Items Submitted	47	43	9.3%	26	80.8%
Items Disposed	47	66	-28.8%	80	-41.3%

**Court/Warrants had a Trooper that was assigned light duty working in that section. He was unaware that he needed to keep the number of Warrants that he validated. This situation has been rectified.*

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Northern Command personnel helped staff several events during the month to include;

- NHP personnel from the traffic and commercial enforcement sections also assisted with the motorcade and traffic control duties to facilitate the visit from Vice President Cheney and his family.
 - This was the fifth presidential/vice presidential candidate visit to Reno this year. We again received positive feedback from Secret Service personnel regarding the safe and smooth operation of the motorcade.
- We continue to do a weekly radio talk show "Trooper Talk", as well as the morning traffic reports on AM 1400.
- Channel 8 News has started doing live televised traffic reports each Monday morning.
 - These presentations will be completed from a different roadside location each week. Lastly, thanks to everyone who helped facilitate the events during the month and for your continued support in the future.

COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

The Northern Command Communication center currently has two vacant PSD I positions with the recent resignations of PSD III Wendy Williams and PSD I Brenda Stone. There are three dispatch applicants currently in the background phase.

Both the vacant Center Manager position and the swing shift supervisor position are in the recruitment phase.

PSD II Dana Brown was recognized as The Dispatcher of the Quarter for the period of July- September 2004.

The radio transmissions in October decreased by 22% when compared to last October and by 14% when compared to last month. The CAD incidents also decreased 26% when compared to last October and 19% when compared to last month.

AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS

- Aircraft flight time
 - Time Over Sites 18.3 hours
 - Time Enroute to Sites 16.1 hours
 - Prisoner Transports 14.2 hours
 - Prisoner Extradition 11.3 hours
 - Personnel Transports 0 hours
- There were 6 total enforcement missions flown.
 - Total enforcement activity 147 citations.

Department of Public Safety
Nevada Highway Patrol
Northern Command
357 Hammill Lane
Reno, Nevada 89511
(775) 688-2500



Major Richard Varner
Deputy Chief, Northern Command

Captain Larry Whitson
Operations

Captain Jacquelyn Sandage
Administration

Lieutenant Jerry Seevers
Carson/Minden

Lieutenant Roger Vind
Fernley/Fallon

Lieutenant John Stewart
Reno Urban

Lieutenant Carl Johnson
Commercial

Lieutenant David Asp
Administration